(a) whether it is a fact that there is a big gap between demand and supply of raw silk in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the production of raw silk in the country and the quantity imported during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Union Government proposes to take any steps to increase the production of raw silk in the country, to meet the demand indigenously; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements proposed to be made thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a gap between the demand and supply of raw silk in the country. The status of production, demand/consumption and import of raw silk is given below:

Year	Total Raw silk Production	Import of Raw silk	Consumption of Raw silk
Unit	MTs	MTs	MTs
2003-04	15,742	9,258	25,000
2004-05	16,500	7,948	24,448
2005-06	17,305	8,383	25,688

(c) and (d) Government has taken various steps to increase production and productivity of raw silk in the country. Important steps are-production of new bivoltine breeds to produce international grade of Mulberry raw silk, developing new mulberry strains, tropicalising bivoltine silkworms, developing a new technical device for reeling of cocoons for improving productivity, implementation of catalytic development programme to support farmers/reelers, establishment of silk conditioning and testing houses etc.

Promotion of Traditional Weaving Craft

1794. SHRI KAMALAKHTAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various schemes being implemented by the Central

Government to promote ages old traditional weaving craft, giving the salient features of these schemes; and

(b) the financial, technical marketing and other types of assistance and support provided to the traditional weavers of Bihar under each of these schemes, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Government of India has been implementing the following schemes for promotion of Traditional Weaving Craft for development of handloom sector throughout the country, including State of Bihar;-

i) Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana
ii) Integrated Handloom Training Project
iii) Handloom Export Scheme
iv) ill Gate Price Scheme
v) Marketing Promotion Programme
vi) Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Programme
vii) Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme
viii) Health Insurance Scheme
ix) Mahatma Gandhi Bima Bunkar Yojana
x) Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme

The salient features of the various schemes is given in the Statement (*see* below).

(b) Since 2003-04, a sum Rs. 110.82 lakh has been released so far under the above schemes.

Statement

Salient Feature of the Schemes for Promotion of Traditional Weaving Craft

Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY)

Deen Dayal Hathkarghas Prosahan Yojana, introduced as a Centraly sponsored Plan scheme w.e.f. 1.4.2000, aims at providing assistnace for

setting up of handlooms, purchasing handloom accessaries, imparting training to weavers, enhancing working capital, developing designs in the handloom products, developing infrastructure, strengthening of handloom organizations and for marketing of handloom products etc. A special component to provide Transport Subsidy for transportation of finished goods from North Eastern States, Sikkim and J&K has also been incorporated in the scheme. The scheme will be in operation till 31.3.2007.

Handloom Export Scheme

The Handloom Export Scheme came into force w.e.f. 31-1-2003. Before that from 1996-97 onwards, the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms had been implementing the "Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme (DEPM)," The objective of the Handloom Export Scheme is to impart financial assistance to the handloom agencies and individuals exporters for development of export-worthy handloom products and their publicity & Marketing.

Marketing Promotion Programme

The objective of the scheme is to promote the marketing of handlooms in the country and to improve levels of awareness among handloom weavers and the general public in the interest of overall development of the handloom sector. The components of the scheme are (i) Organization of Exhibitions and fairs; (ii) setting up of Urban Haats; (iii) setting up of Marketing Complexes; (iv) Publicity and awareness.

Handloom Mark

The Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India has introduced 'Handloom Mark Scheme' for the domestic as well as international markets. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had launched the Scheme on 28th June, 2006. The Scheme will serve as a guarantee for the buyer that the product being purchased is genuinely hand woven and will help in promoting sales of handloom products. It will not only popularize Indian handloom but also improve price realization of the handloom products in domestic and international markets. It will help the buyers in distinguishing the handloom products from the powerloom and mill-made products and thus, also improve the earnings of the handloom weavers for their hard work and skill. The Scheme covers all handloom fabrics and procuts made thereof. The Scheme will

be operational throughout the country. Individual weavers, Weavers Cooperative Societies, master Weavers, Retailers and Exporters are entitled to participate in the scheme and avail of its benefits. The Handloom Mark logo has been developed by the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. Textile Committee in the Ministry of Textiles is the implementing agency for the Scheme.

Mill Gate Price Scheme

Government of India introduced Mill Gate Price Scheme in 1992-93 with the objective of providing all types of yarns to the handloom weavers' organization at the mill gate price. National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) is the only agency authorized to implement the scheme.

(i) *Supply of Yarn:* The expenditure involved for the above activity and also the overhead expenditure involved by the NHDC on this yarn transaction is being reimbursed by the Government at following flat rate:

Yarn other than silk and jute	3.5% of the value of yarn
Silk Yarn	2% of the value of yarn
Jute Yarn	10% of value of yarn

Where National Handloom Development Corporation will supply yarn for delivery through yarn depots, NHDC will get an additional reimbursement of 1.5% of the value of yarn stated above. Thus, the above mentioned rate of reimbursement will be enhanced as follows:

(i)	Other than silk and jute yarn	— 5.0% of the value
(ii)	Silk yarn all types	— 3.5% of the value
(iii)	Jute yarn and its blends in which the proportion of Jute is more than 50%	— 11.5% of the value

Integrated Handloom Training Project

"Integrated Handloom Training Project (IHTP)" was introduced in Dec. 2003. The project envisages skill up-gradation of handloom weavers/ workers in Weaving Technology, Design Development, Dyeing Technique & Managerial disciplines, so as to enable them to produce and market a

diversified range of quality products in keeping with current trends in the domestic and international markets.

Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme

The scheme is being implemented primarily for providing suitable work place to the weavers thereby achieving better productivity. The scheme is being implemented by the respective State Handloom Development Corporations, Primary Societies or any other specialized agency set up by the concerned State Government for execution of such projects.

The existing funding pattern under the Scheme is given below:-

Name of the Component	Unit cost In Rs.	Maximum Subsidy	Loan from HUDCO/FIs	Weavers Contribution
Rural Workshed	9000	7000	—	2000
Urban Workshed	14000	10000	—	4000
Rural Workshed-cum-House	35000	18000	14000	3000
Urban Workshed-cum-Houses	45000	20000	20000	5000

Bunkar Bima Yojana (BBY)

The Government of India introduced a Special Contributory Insurance Scheme called "Bunkar Bima Yojana" during December, 2003. This scheme was a combination of the Janshree Bima Yojana and Add-on Group Insurance Scheme implemented in collaboration with the Life Insurance Corporation of India. The objective of the scheme was to provide enhanced insurance cover to the handloom weavers in case of natural as well as accidental death.

This scheme was replaced by the Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY), which was introduced in 2005-06.

Design Development & Training Programme

The comprehensive Design Development and Training programme provides for skill up-gradation of weavers through a variety of training programmes, workshops and exhibitions and for development of design inputs to be disseminated to weavers, the collection of traditional designs and skills, and the provision of linkages between various agencies of the handloom sector for corrdinating the design, technological and skill-based

factors for developing products to meet the market demand and improve the productivity and viability of the handloom weavers. The various components of this programme will be implemented by organizations most suited to carry out the particular activities. This is a 100% Central Sector programme except for one component for central assistance to state governments for setting up of IIHTs and WSCs.

Enforcement Machinery

(i) Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985

The Government of India, in pursuance of the Textiles Policy, 1985, promulgated the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 dated 29.3.1985 with a view to protect the interests of the handloom weavers in the country from the encroachment of the Powerloom and Mill sector on their livelihood. Under the Act, protection to the handloom sector was extended by way of reserving certain textile articles for exclusive production by handlooms. Presently 11 reserved textile articles are reserved under the Handloom Reservation Order, 1996 vide Notification No. S.O. 557(E) dated 26.7.96 as amended vide S.O. 408(E) dated 2.6.99 and (S.) 405(E) dated 25.4.2000. These articles are: 1. Saree, 2. Dhoti, 3. Towel, Gamcha and Angawastaram, 4. Lungi, 5. Khes, Bedsheet, Bedcover, Counterpane. Furnishing (including tapestry, upholstery), 6. Jamakkalam Durry or Durret, 7. Dress Material, 8. Barrack Blankets, Kambal or Kamblies, 9. Shawl, Loi, Muffler, Pankhi etc., 10. Wollen Tweed, 11. Chaddar, Mekhala/Phanek.

(ii) Scheme for Central Assistance to State/U.T. for establishment of Enforcement Machinery under the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985

The scheme for Central Assistance to State/UTs for establishment of Enforcement Machinery was introduced by the Govenment of India in the year 1986-87. The schemes has been operational during the VII, VIII and IX five year plan & 2002-03 and 2003-04 of the Xth Plan as PLAN Scheme. From 2004-05, it is being continued under NON-PLAN with 100% Central Assistance. The basic objective of the scheme is to encourage and assist the States/UTs for establishing Enforcement Machinery to effectively implement the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. The assistance under the scheme is released to the State Director

in-charge of Handloom and Textiles through the State Government/Union Territories.

The following is the Eligibility Criteria to avail assistance:-

5000 or more powerlooms are eligible for assistance; the head quarter office will be under direct control of the State Director in-charge of Handlooms and Textiles; each subsidiary Office shall be set up with additional 20,000 power looms in each pocket of power looms concentration; out of the 24 states only 14 states are eligible, whereas only 7 States have availed assistance under the scheme.

Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

The integrated handloom development cluster scheme launched as a sequel to the pronouncement made by the Hon'ble Finance Minister as a new Central Sector Scheme from 14th November 2005. Integrated Handloom Cluster Development Scheme has been introduced in 20 handloom clusters at a cost of Rs. 40,00 crores to provide for development of handloom clusters in an inclusive and holistic manner and to build up their capacity to meet the challenges of the market and global competition in a sustainable and self-reliant manner, The scheme will support weavers in the cooperative and outside fold including those of Self Help Groups, NGOs, small and medium enterprises and attached weavers. Following a holistic approach the programme will cover the entire needs of the handlooms sector in each cluster for supply of raw materials, marketing support, design inputs, upgradation of technology and welfare fo the weavers. It is expected that through various interventions, the weaknesses of the cluster will be rectified and the scheme would make their products more competition in the market place. Special emphasis would be given on the design component where assistance of professional designers as well as product diversification will be undertaken. The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad has been appointed as Implementing Agency for development of Handloom Cluster in Varanasi. It has also been selected as Natinal Resource Agency for development of 20 identified handloom clusters throughout the country and work has commenced in all the 20 Clusters through various implementing agencies.

Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana

The Mahatama Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) has been

introduced during the year 2005-06. The objective of the scheme is to provide insurance coverage to the handloom weavers in case of natural as well as accidental death. It is an improvement of the earlier scheme in the sense that weaver's contribution has been reduced by Rs. 50/-. The Scheme is implemented through the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The sum assured for natural death is Rs. 50,000/- and that for accidental death is Rs. 80,000/- under the Scheme. In the case of permanent total disability also the sum assured is Rs. 50,000/- while in the case of partial disability the sum assured is Rs. 25,000/-. The annual premium under the scheme is Rs. 330/-. The funding pattern of the Scheme is as under:-

(i)	Weavers ' share	Rs. 80/- weaver per annum
(ii)	Government of India' share	Rs. 150/- per weaver per annum
(iii)	LIC's share	Rs. 100/-per weaver per annum
	Total	Rs. 330/-

Additional benefits under MGBBY

A scholarship of Rs. 300/- per quarter per child is to be paid to students studying in standard IX to XII for a maximum period of four years or till they compete XII standard, whichever event occurs earlier. The scholarship will be for academic year June to May. The benefits are restricted to two children of the member covered. Both the children will be covered for scholarship. This scheme is an improvement over the Bunkar Bima Yojana because the weaver's contribution is less by Rs. 50/- per annum in the new scheme for same amount of benefits.

Health Insurance Scheme (HIS)

The Health Insurance Scheme was introduced in 2005-06, in place of earlier Health Package Scheme in which the upper limit for the reimbursement claim received from the State Governments was only Rs. 1500/- in a year. The Health Package Scheme covered only the individual and not member of his family. The newly introduced Health Insurance Scheme covers not only the weaver, but his wife and two children also. It covers all the preexisting and new diseases. The maximum limit per family is Rs. 15000/- per annum, which is 10 times the benefit under the old Health Package Scheme, out of which OPD cover is Rs. 7,500/-.

The benefits under the Scheme are given below:-

Annual Limit per family (1+3)	15,000/-
Sub Limits per Family:	15,000/-
All pre-existing Diseases+New Disease	
Maternity Benefits (per child for the first two)	2,500/-
Dental treatment	250/-
Eye treatment	75/-
Spectacles	250/-
Domiciliary Hospitalisation	4,000/-
Ayurvedic/Unani/Homeopathic/Siddha	4,000/-
Pre-Hospitalisation & Post Hospitalisation	15,000/-
Baby coverage	500/-
OPD	7,500/-
Limit per illness	7,500/-
Premium for family of Four	1000/-

The existing funding pattern on the scheme is under:-

i)	Weavers' share	Rs. 200/- per weaver per annum
ii)	Government of India share	Rs. 800/- per weaver per annum
	Total :	Rs. 1000/-

The scheme is implemented through ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd.

Technology Up-gradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for Handloom Sector

Launched on 31st July, 2006 as a component of the existing TUF Scheme of the Ministry of Textiles. Salient features of the Scheme: 25% capital subsidy for purchages of the new machinery and equipments for the Pre-loom & post-loom operations, up-gradation of handlooms and trsting & Quality Control equipments for exclusive use bh the handloom production units; capital ceiling per project is Rs. 80.00 Lakh; Maximum capital subsidy Rs. 20.00 lakh.

Eligible Agencies: Existing handloom units having a minimum of 10 handlooms housed in a common workshed, New units, which propose to set up with at least 10 handlooms at one place in a common work-shed.

Loan provided to handloom weavers

†1795. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 248 dated the 26th July, 2006 and state:

(a) the State-wise details of the amount of loan, provided to the handloom weavers at low rate of interest till date;

(b) the status of the progress made to set up Yorn Depots at the nearby places for handloom groups of 1000 looms, and the State-wise number of such Yarn Depots established; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Specific information on loans provided to Handloom weavers at low rate of interest is not maintained by the Office of Development Commissioner for Handlooms. However, the State-wise information provided by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in respect of working capital and term loans drawn from Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks by Handlooms weavers and Primary Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies during the years 2003-04 to 2006-07 (upto June 2006) is enclosed at statement I & II respectively (*See* below).

(b) and (c) In order to ensure uninterrupted and timely supply of all types of yarn at reasonable prices to handloom weavers, the Government of India is implementing the Mill Gate Price Scheme since 1992-93 under which 383 yarn depots have been established throughout the country, a State-wise list of which is enclosed at statement-III.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.